

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for determining interdependencies between project team
2 members working on a development project, the method comprising:

3 receiving data indicative of a temporal relationship between a first and a
4 second project team member having modified at least one artifact of the development
5 project;

6 statistically analyzing the data indicative of the temporal relationship
7 between the project team members;

8 forming at least one metric representative of an interdependency
9 relationship between the first and second project team members; and

10 storing the at least one metric representative of the interdependency
11 relationship.

1 2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising collecting data
2 indicative of modifying the at least one artifact of the development project by the first
3 and second project team members, the data including a time-stamp.

1 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one artifact
2 includes at least one of a data element and a datafile.

1 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein said statistically analyzing
2 includes performing a regression analysis.

1 5. The method according to claim 1, wherein said statistically analyzing
2 includes performing a correlation to produce at least one correlation coefficient.

1 6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one metric
2 representative of the interdependency relationship includes at least one of the following:
3 a correlation coefficient, a slope, and an intercept.

1 7. The method according to claim 1, further comprising forming a series of
2 the metrics representative of the interdependency relationship between the first and
3 second project team members.

1 8. The method according to claim 7, wherein said forming the series
2 includes repeating at predetermined, random, or pseudo-random time periods said
3 receiving, statistically analyzing, and storing.

1 9. The method according to claim 7, further comprising displaying the
2 series of metrics.

1 10. The method according to claim 1, further comprising generating a
2 human legible alphanumeric description of the at least one metric to describe the
3 strength of the interdependency relationship between the first and second project team
4 members.

1 11. A system for determining interdependency relationships between at least
2 two project team members working on a development project including at least one
3 artifact modified by the at least two project team members, the system comprising:

4 a data collector component associated with the development project, and
5 operable to collect data indicative of a temporal relationship between the first and
6 second project team members modifying the at least one object;

7 a statistics analyzer component for statistically analyzing the collected
8 data indicative of the temporal relationship to form at least one metric representative of
9 an interdependency relationship between the first and second project team members;
10 and

11 a data repository for storing the at least one metric representative of the
12 interdependency relationship between the first and second project team members.

1 12. The system according to claim 11, wherein the collected data includes
2 time-stamps identifying at least one modification time of the at least one artifact by first
3 and second project team members.

1 13. The system according to claim 11, wherein the at least one artifact
2 includes at least one of a data object and a datafile.

1 14. The system according to claim 11, wherein statistically analyzing
2 includes performing at least one of a regression analysis and a correlation.

1 15. The system according to claim 11, wherein the at least one metric
2 representative of the interdependency relationship includes a correlation coefficient.

1 16. The system according to claim 11, wherein said data repository stores a
2 series of the metrics representative of the interdependency relationship between the first
3 and second project team members.

1 17. The system according to claim 16, further comprising a displayer for
2 displaying the series of the metrics.

1 18. The system according to claim 17, wherein the series is graphically
2 displayed.

- 1 19. The system according to claim 11, further comprising an interpreter for
2 generating a human legible description of the at least one metric to describe a strength
3 of the interdependency relationship between the first and second project team members.

1 20. A method for analyzing an interdependency relationship between a first
2 and a second person working on at least one artifact stored on a network, the method
3 comprising:

4 tracking modifications to the at least one artifact by the first and second
5 person;

6 storing parameters associated with the modifications to the at least one
7 artifact by the first and second person;

8 first identifying modifications to the at least one artifact performed by
9 the first person as stored;

10 second identifying modifications to the at least one artifact performed by
11 the second person as stored; and

12 performing a statistical analysis based on the identified modifications to
13 the at least one artifact by the first and second persons, the statistical analysis
14 generating at least one metric indicative of the interdependency relationship between
15 the first and second persons.

1 21. The method according to claim 20, wherein the parameters include time-
2 stamps identifying times of modifications to the at least one artifact by the first and
3 second persons.

1 22. The method according to claim 20, wherein the at least one artifact is
2 associated with a development project.

1 23. The method according to claim 20, wherein the parameters are stored in
2 a table.

1 24. The method according to claim 23, wherein the table is a hash table.

1 25. The method according to claim 23, wherein the table includes at least
2 one key associated with each of the at least one artifact.

1 26. The method according to claim 23, wherein the at least one artifact
2 includes at least one of a data object and a datafile.

1 27. The method according to claim 20, wherein the network includes at least
2 one of the following: a local area network, a wide area network, and the Internet.

1 28. The method according to claim 20, wherein their statistical analysis
2 includes at least one of a regression model and correlation.

1 29. The method according to claim 20, wherein said first and second
2 identifying includes counting the number of modifications to the at least one artifact
3 performed by the first and second persons temporally.

1 30. The method according to claim 29, further including summing a number
2 of modifications to the at least one artifact modified by the first person and successively
3 modified by the second person.

1 31. The method according to claim 20, wherein the identified modifications
2 by the first and second persons are in the aggregate for artifacts of the same type.

1 32. The method according to claim 20, wherein the identified modifications
2 by the first and second persons determined on an individual artifact basis.

1 33. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon sequences of
2 instructions, the sequences of instructions including instructions, when executed by a
3 processor, causes the processor to:
4 receive data indicative of a temporal relationship between a first and a
5 second project team member modifying at least one artifact of a development project;
6 statistically analyze the data indicative of the temporal relationship
7 between the first and second project team members; and
8 form at least one metric representative of an interdependency
9 relationship between the first and second project team members.